

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Current Amended) A method comprising:

in a network, in each of a plurality of compute nodes, maintaining a local store of services, the local store of services including at least a service name, a service functionality and statistics defining a historical performance of the service on each compute node, wherein the statistics includes at least one of a number representing times the service has been instantiated, a number representing, for each instantiation of the service, how long the service was used until the service was destroyed, a number representing a service response time, a number representing an average availability statistic, a service version number, a cost for a service, and a number representing times the service had errors;

receiving a request for a service from a client system; and

compiling a list of compute nodes matching the service request, the list having service names ranked according to the service functionality and the statistics for each compute node.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the statistics comprise a number representing times the service has been instantiated.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the statistics comprise a number representing, for each instantiation of the service, how long the service was used until the service was destroyed.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 in which the statistics comprise a number representing a service response time.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the statistics comprise a number representing an average availability statistic.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the statistics comprise a service version number.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the statistics comprise a cost for a service.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the statistics comprise a number representing times the service had errors.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the statistics comprise:
a number representing times the service has been instantiated;
a number representing, for each instantiation of the service, how long the service as used until the service was destroyed;

a number representing a service response time;
a number representing an average availability statistic;
a number representing times the service has errors; and
a service version number.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising displaying the list on the client system.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 in which displaying comprises a graphical user interface (GUI).

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the list is ranked according to a frequency of service instantiation.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the list is ranked according to an average service response time.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 in which the list is ranked according to a frequency of error.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer program product, tangibly embodied in an information carrier, for service searching, the computer program being operable to cause data processing apparatus to perform the method comprising:

in a network, in each of a plurality of compute nodes, maintaining a local store of services, the local store of services including at least a service name, a service functionality and statistics defining the historical performance of the service on each compute node, wherein the statistics includes at least one of a number representing times the service has been instantiated, a number representing, for each instantiation of the service, how long the service was used until the service was destroyed, a number representing a service response time, a number representing an average availability statistic, a service version number, a cost for a service, and a number representing times the service had errors;

receiving a request for a service from a client system; and

compiling a list of compute nodes matching the service request, the list having service names ranked according to the statistics.

16. (Original) The product of claim 15 in which the statistics comprise:

a number representing times the service has been instantiated;

a number representing a service response time;

a number representing an average availability statistic; and

a service version number.

17. (Original) The product of claim 15 in which the list is ranked according to a frequency of service instantiation.

18. (Original) The product of claim 15 in which the list is ranked according to an average service response time.

19. (Original) The product of claim 15 in which the list is ranked according to cost.

20. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
a client system residing in a network;
a plurality of compute nodes in the network, each one of the compute nodes maintaining a local store of services, the local store of services including at least a service name, a service functionality and statistics defining the historical performance of the service on each compute node, wherein the statistics includes at least one of a number representing times the service has been instantiated, a number representing, for each instantiation of the service, how long the service was used until the service was destroyed, a number representing a service response time, a number representing an average availability statistic, a service version number, a cost for a service, and a number representing times the service had errors;

means for receiving a request for a service from a client system; and

means for compiling a list of compute nodes matching the service request, the list having service names ranked according to the statistics.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20 in which the statistics comprises:
a number representing times the service has been instantiated;

a number representing a service response time;
a number representing an average availability statistic; and
a service version number.

22. (Original) The system of claim 20 in which the list is ranked according to a frequency of service instantiation.

23. (Original) The system of claim 20 in which the list is ranked according to an average service response time.

24. (Original) A method comprising:
generating a store of installed services in a computing device, the store including service names, a service functionalities and statistics defining the historical performance of the service on the computing device, the statistics comprising a number representing times the service has been instantiated, a number representing a service response time, a number representing an average availability statistic and a service version number; and

updating the statistics in response to a change in the number of service instantiations, a change in service response time, a change in service availability or a change in the service version number.

25. (Original) The method of claim 24 further comprising providing remote access to the store.

26. (Original) The method of claim 24 wherein the statistics further comprise
a cost.